

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
HA-05 OMB-01 /072 W
-----038642 130823Z /20

R 130659Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0037
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 4047

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: HU, RO
SUBJECT: HUNGARY AND THE TRANSYLVANIAN MAGYARS

REFS: (A) BUCHAREST 3832, (B) BUDAPEST 2051

1. AT LUNCHEON WITH DCM JUNE 7, LONDON TIMES BELGRADE CORRESPONDENT DESSA TREVISAN SAID ALMOST DAILY CALLS TO HER IN BELGRADE FROM BUDAPEST INTELLECTUALS INTERESTED IN TRANSYLVANIAN MAGYAR MINORITY QUESTION HAD STOPPED ABRUPTLY ABOUT MAY 10, AND HAD NOT RESUMED SINCE.

2. IN DESCRIBING CALLERS (SEE ALSO REF B, PARA 2), SHE SAID THEY WERE YOUNG INTELLECTUALS GROUPED AROUND ILLYES--MOST FREQUENT WAS HIS SON-IN-LAW--ALL SERIOUS, SOME OF THEM
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SIGNERS OF THE 1977 LETTER OF SUPPORT OF CHARTER 77. CONTACT WITH HER AND OTHER BELGRADE CORRESPONDENTS OF WESTERN PAPERS HAD BEEN STEADY SINCE LATE LAST YEAR; IN FACT, SHE HAD BEEN SLIPPED COPY OF KAROLY KIRALY'S THIRD LETTER AT JANUARY 6 CEREMONY RETURNING CROWN TO HUNGARY IN BUDAPEST PARLIAMENT BUILDING, IN SECRETARY VANCE'S PRESENCE. SHE SHE ADDED THAT CONTACTS WERE SO GRATEFUL FOR PUBLICITY SHE

WAS GIVING CAUSE THAT SHE FINALLY HAD TO POINT OUT SHE WAS NON-PARTISAN, AND NOT FIGHTER FOR MAGYAR MINORITY RIGHTS PER SE.

3. ON KIRALY HIMSELF, HER CONTACTS TOLD HER HE HAD FIRST APPROACHED THEM DURING LATE SPRING VACATION AT LAKE BALATON, BEFORE KADAR-CEAUSESCU MEETING AND DEBRECEN ACCORDS, ASKING TO BE PUT IN TOUCH WITH KADAR. AT FIRST THEY HAD THOUGHT HE WAS PROVOCATEUR, AND HESITATED UNTIL "SOMEONE KNOWLEDGEABLE" VOUCHERED FOR HIS GOOD FAITH. UNTIL HE HAD BEEN MOVED FROM TIRGU MURES TO CARANSEBES IN JANUARY, HE HAD BEEN IN CONSTANT TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH BUDAPEST; IT HAS STOPPED SINCE THEN.

4. COMMENT. TREVISAN'S FIRSTHAND REPORT SUGGESTS TO US BOTH THAT KIRALY'S CAMPAIGN HAD A GOOD DEAL OF HUNGARIAN SUPPORT, SEMI-OFFICIAL IF NOT OFFICIAL, WELL BEFORE IT WAS PUBLICIZED IN WEST, AND THAT PAUL LENDVAI'S MAY 19 REPORT (PARA 6 REF A) THAT DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO WITHDRAW THIS SUPPORT, AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING, WAS SUBSTANTIALLY CORRECT.

AGGREY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, DISCRIMINATION, ALLEGATIONS, MINORITIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BUCHAR04047
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780246-0562
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780667/aaaacflc.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 6e6e498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BUCHAREST 3832, 78 BUDAPEST 2051
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2380235
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HUNGARY AND THE TRANSYLVANIAN MAGYARS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, HU, RO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6e6e498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014